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missed—depend on rain instead of the inundations of the Nile (xii. 49)."

The book is packed with information, references are very freely given, and from these and from the bibliography (pp. xxiii-xxvi), together with various notices in the preface, the student can get an excellent general idea of the bibliography of the subject. The proof-reading has been carefully done. As remarked above, difference of opinion as to details there is bound to be, but Professor Margoliouth has in this work produced a life of Mohammed which no student can afford to neglect.

J. R. JEWETT.

*England under the Normans and Angevins, 1066-1272.* By H. W. C. DAVIS, Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; London: Methuen and Company. 1905. Pp. xxii, 577.)

THIS, the second in chronological order in Professor Oman's series, is an attractive book, at once well-planned, well-written, and scholarly. The narrative is crisp and clear and the characterizations pointed, and Mr. Davis treats his theme broadly, contriving to say something on practically every aspect of the period, and finding space for two readable chapters on intellectual and social conditions. Indeed the treatment is in some places so broad as to lead to unnecessary and even unhistorical digressions. The author cannot take up the conquest of Ireland without applying the fable of the hare and the tortoise to the Celtic and Teutonic characters, and he considers it part of his business as a historian to decide whether the influence of monasticism and the Crusades was good or bad, after a fashion which recalls the *Würdigungen* once popular in certain German schools of historical philosophy. Such lapses into teleology are, however, brief and infrequent, more common defects being a tendency to subjective judgments and sweeping statements.

The book claims (p. xi) to be "based throughout upon the original authorities", and while we cannot suppose that this is meant to be taken with literal exactness, it is plain that Mr. Davis has read widely in the printed sources and used them to good purpose. The monographic contributions of English and German scholars have also been industriously utilized, but there is a curious neglect of the results of American investigations. Of the various studies of Gross and G. B. Adams he cites only the *Gild Merchant* and *Coroners' Rolls* and Adams's brief note on the commune of London. He has evidently not seen Adams's interpretation of the writ of Henry I. regarding the local courts (AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, VIII. 487-490), or Lapsley's *County Palatine of Durham*, or Thatcher's *Studies concerning Adrian IV*. A perusal of Larson's *King's Household in England before the Norman Conquest* would have saved him from the statement that the household of the West-Saxon king was a copy of the Carolingian (p. 44). He would also have found evidence in this REVIEW (VIII. 625, note 3) that the

Norman *baillies* are older than Henry II., and (X. 440) that Beard's *Justice of the Peace* is not one of the "Harvard Studies" (p. 326). French writers fare better, although Mr. Davis has overlooked three recent books of importance for his subject: Guilhiermoz's *Origine de la Noblesse*, Lot's *Fidèles ou Vassaux*, and Richard's *Histoire des Comtes de Poitou*. Baldwin's notable studies of the king's council and Schäfer's new interpretation of the Concordat of Worms probably appeared too late to be utilized.

There are several useful maps and some brief appendixes which deal at somewhat greater length than the text with such topics as the condition of Normandy before the Conquest, the earls of the Norman period, and local justice under the Norman kings. We are glad to see attention here called to the decrees of the council of Lillebonne of 1080, the importance of which has not been sufficiently recognized. The ten-page bibliography serves no useful purpose, as it contains exceedingly little that could not have been found in more adequate and accurate form in Gross's *Sources and Literature*, of whose existence the reader is not even informed. The proof-reading is apt to be careless, particularly in citing the titles of books, as when Ulysses Robert appears in the Welsh disguise of "W. Roberts" (p. 534) and (p. 538) Léopold Delisle is made the editor of an unidentifiable edition of Joinville. Other obvious slips are the placing of the accession of Louis VI. in 1100 (p. 147) and the death of Gregory VII. in the same year as that of the Conqueror (p. 88). Such forms as "Mellent" and "Yprès" (also "Yprès", pp. 170, 171) would be difficult to justify. It is important, if true, that Alexander Neckam lectured on the physical and metaphysical works of Aristotle at Paris in 1180 (p. 502), but, unfortunately for our knowledge of an important and obscure matter, the statement is not true, unless Mr. Davis has found some new evidence which he refrains from citing. The date of Neckam's teaching at Paris is quite possible, though it would seem to rest upon the untrustworthy authority of DuBoulay, but nothing has yet been brought forward which shows that the "new Aristotle" reached Paris before the year 1200.

Mr. Davis's account is more comprehensive and the narrative portions of it are less detailed than is the *History of England* from 1066 to 1216 recently published by Professor G. B. Adams, which is restricted to political history by the plan of the series in which it appears; but though he is often fresh and suggestive, he does not give the impression of having pondered so deeply as Professor Adams the fundamental problems of English institutions which the historian of this period must face. Thus Mr. Davis is rather elusive on the results of the Norman Conquest and fails to give any such discussion of the relations of the Conquest to feudalism as seems necessary to a proper understanding of Anglo-Norman history. In sharp contrast to Professor Adams and the general trend of recent investigations, he holds (p. 68) that the policy of Henry I. was essentially a continuation of that of William Rufus and that "the improvements for which Henry is responsible are extremely modest in

their scope". He treats the reign of Stephen quite briefly, and maintains against Mr. Round, whose conclusions Professor Adams accepts, the view of the anarchy which he has developed more fully in a recent number of the *English Historical Review*. In discussing the Great Charter Mr. Davis does not take account of the views of Professor Adams and Professor Maitland, according to which the most significant feature of the Charter lies in its assertion of the principle that the king is below the law. It would be interesting, did space permit, to follow out in detail the comparison of these two books, but enough has perhaps been said to show that they differ widely in general scope and in the treatment of particular topics and supplement each other in such a way that there is plenty of room for them both.

CHARLES H. HASKINS.

*Chronicles of London.* Edited with introduction and notes by CHARLES LETHBRIDGE KINGSFORD, M.A. (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1905. Pp. xlviii, 368.)

THE chronicles printed in this volume set forth important events of local or national interest arranged under the names of the successive mayors and sheriffs of London. Mr. Kingsford mentions the instance of a Bristol chronicle of this type preserved in the *Kalendar* of Robert Ricart, who was town clerk of Bristol in the time of Edward IV. and who compiled his work at the bidding of the municipal corporation. But there were many mayors' chronicles or calendars in other boroughs besides Bristol to which Mr. Kingsford might have called attention, for example, at Chester, Coventry, Leicester, Plymouth, Shrewsbury, and York. They vary in fullness. Some are mere catalogues of mayors with meagre memoranda of municipal transactions, while others, especially those of London, widen into a narrative of national affairs, and are of considerable value for the history not merely of the city but also of the kingdom. In fact, London is the only English city which produced chronicles comparable with those of continental towns. The oldest are the *Liber de Antiquis Legibus*, written in Latin in 1274, and the French *Croniques*, compiled about the middle of the fourteenth century.

Mr. Kingsford has made a substantial addition to our knowledge of this branch of historical literature by editing three English chronicles of London from the Cottonian manuscripts in the British Museum. One of them, extending from 1189 to 1432, was written about the year 1435; another covers the period 1415 to 1443, the year in which it was probably written; and the third gives a narrative of events from 1216 to 1509, the early portion compiled about 1440, from which year it was continued by other writers. Down to the end of the reign of Henry IV. they have much matter in common and seem to have been derived from one original source, but from the year 1414 onward they were written contemporaneously with the events which they record. From them Fabyan, Hall, Holinshed, Arnold, Stow, and other later London